State Officials Clarify Name of Influenza A (H1N1) Virus

INDIANAPOLIS – State officials are encouraging media outlets to use Influenza A (H1N1)/North American/Human when referring to the current influenza strain, rather than swine flu.

The virus causing the current influenza outbreak is not a virus that normally infects pigs, but a combination of human, swine and bird viruses. The flu virus causing the current outbreak, now called Influenza A (H1N1)/North America/Human, has adapted itself to be easily transmitted from person-to-person.

Swine in the United States have not been and are not infected with this virus. Pork that is properly cooked continues to be safe for consumption. For more information, visit the Indiana State Department of Health Web site at http://www.in.gov/isdh/24572.htm.

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